

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 00396 210939Z
ACTION PM-04

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 396

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, TW, US
SUBJECT: SHARK HUNT XIX AND SHARK HUNT XX EXERCISES
JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1977

1. TDC HAS PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH DETAILS OF SHARK HUNT EXERCISES XIX AND XX, WHICH WILL BE HELD JANUARY 26-29, 1977, AND FEBRUARY 22-25, 1977. THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN BASIC PLANNING REGARDING THE SCOPE OF THESE EXERCISES, AS OUTLINED ON PAGE 1, ENCLOSURE (1), OF THE US/ROC EXERCISE SCHEDULE FOR SECOND QUARTER FY-77 (POUCHED TO EA/ROC DECEMBER 7, 1976).

2. U.S. SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT PARTICIPATING IN SHARK HUNT XIX WILL INCLUDE TWO GUIDED MISSILE DESTROYERS, ONE FRIGATE, ONE AMMUNITION SHIP, AND TWO OR THREE U.S. NAVY P3 PATROL AIRCRAFT. PARTICIPANTS ON THE ROC SIDE WILL INCLUDE ONE SUBMARINE, THREE OR FOUR S2A RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT, TWO T33 AIRCRAFT, FIVE DESTROYERS, ONE PATROL FRIGATE, ONE TUGBOAT, AND EIGHT F-100'S.

3. IN SHARK HUNT XX THERE WILL BE, ON THE U.S. SIDE, ONE GUIDED MISSILE DESTROYER, TWO FRIGATES, ONE SUPPORT SHIP, AND TWO OR THREE P3'S. THE NUMBER OF ROC AIRCRAFT AND SHIPS PARTICIPATING IN SHARK HUNT XX WILL PROBABLY BE THE SAME AS
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IN SHARK HUNT XIX.

4. IT IS NORMAL FOR ABOUT TWO SHARK HUNT EXERCISES TO BE HELD EVERY QUARTER. DURING THE EXERCISES, U.S. AND ROC SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT RECEIVE ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE TRAINING. U.S. OFFICERS CAN OBSERVE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE ROC ASW EFFORT. ROC AND U.S. PARTICIPANTS GET TRAINING IN (A) FIRING

AT AIR- AND SEA-TOWED TARGETS, (B) REPLENISHMENT OF SUPPLIES
AT SEA, AND (C) WARDING OFF AIRCRAFT MAKING SIMULATED ATTACKS
ON SHIPS. ALL ACTIVITY ASSOCIATED WITH THESE TWO EXERCISES
WILL TAKE PLACE NO FURTHER THAN FORTY MILES SOUTHWEST OF
KAOHSIUNG.

5. TDC PAO WILL RESPOND TO ANY PRESS QUERIES WITH STANDING
GUIDANCE QUOTE WE DO NOT COMMENT ON MILITARY EXERCISES
UNQUOTE.
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Message Attributes

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